

Amendment and Response under 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Applicant: Barry D. Kurtz et al.

Serial No.: 09/888,659

Filed: June 25, 2001

Docket No.: 10003919-1

Title: DOCUMENT SERVICES MANAGEMENT INCLUDING AVAILABILITY REPORTING OF
DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION SERVICES

REMARKS

The following Remarks are made in response to the Final Office Action mailed May 21, 2004, in which claims 1-25 were rejected. With this amendment, claims 2 and 16 have been cancelled without prejudice, and claims 1, 3, 6, 9, 14, 15, 17, 19, and 21 have been amended to clarify Applicant's invention. Claims 1, 3-15, and 17-25, therefore, remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-5 and 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hower, Jr. et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,467,434. Claims 6-11 and 16-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hower, Jr. et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,467,434.

With this Amendment, independent claims 1 and 14 have been amended to clarify that the document distribution services include at least one of print services, electronic mail services, and publishing services, and that the method of managing document distribution services includes distributing documents with the document distribution services, including receiving and processing document distribution requests. In addition, independent claim 15 has been amended to clarify that the document distribution services include at least one of print services, electronic mail services, and publishing services, and that the document distribution system controller is adapted to receive and process document distribution requests, and the document distribution services are adapted to distribute documents based on the requests.

With respect to the Hower, Jr. et al. patent, this patent does not teach or suggest a method of managing document distribution services as claimed in independent claims 1 and 14, nor a system for managing document distribution services as claimed in independent claim 15.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 14, and 15 are each patentably distinct from the Hower, Jr. et al. patent and, therefore, are in a condition for allowance. Furthermore, as dependent claims 3-13 further define patentably distinct claim 1, and dependent claims 17-25 further define patentably distinct claim 15, Applicant submits that dependent claims 3-13 and dependent claims 17-25 are also in a condition for allowance.

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Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 1-5 and 12-15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and claims 6-11 and 16-25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claims 1, 3-15, and 17-25 be allowed.

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DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION SERVICES**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1, 3-15, and 17-25 are all in a condition for allowance and requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of all pending claims.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to either James R. McDaniel at Telephone No. (208) 396-4095, Facsimile No. (208) 396-3958 or Scott A. Lund at Telephone No. (612) 573-2006, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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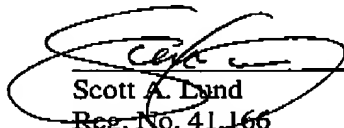
Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (703) 872-9306 on this 21st day of July, 2004.

By: 
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